

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1st August, 1933.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND

TOWN COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF DURBAN.

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present herewith the Thirty-second Annual Report dealing with the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough of Durban, for the year ended 30th June, 1933.

INCORPORATION. On the 1st August 1932, the Borough boundaries were extended so as to include the areas formerly administered by the Greenwood Park, Sydenham, Mayville, Umhlutuzana and South Coast Junction Health Boards. Having regard to the fact that the population of the Borough was thereby increased from 126,020 to 215,661 and its area from 13 sq. miles to 65 sq. miles, it will be appreciated that the occasion was one which influenced the various activities of this Department to a considerable degree in which every effort had to be exerted to adapt existing conditions and office facilities to the task of administering public health functions in the Greater Borough.

On incorporation of the Sanitary Staffs of the Health Boards were absorbed into the Department with the result that the lack of adequate office accommodation has impeded the normal progress and efficiency of the Department.

On the appointment of a whole-time Clinical Medical Officer in January to undertake the duties of Sick Leave Control, Medical Attendance on Police and Fire Brigade Staffs and Injured-on-duty Cases together with Medical Attendance on the patients isolated at the Fever Hospital, the Assistant Medical Officer of Health was transferred and is now devoting his whole time to executive public health duties.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION (Estimated).

Districts	Europeans	Coloureds	Natives	Asiatics	Total
Durban	60,000	4,400	43,750	19,100	127,250
Greenwood Park	5,110	Unknown	2,100	5,270	12,480
Sydenham	2,900	do.	4,500	13,460	20,850
Mayville	2,964	510	4,000	14,380	21,855
Umhlutuzana	5,140	Unknown	1,400	3,500	10,040
South Coast Junction	3,485	do.	8,860	14,000	26,345
TOTALS :	79,600	4,910	64,610	69,710	218,830

DEATHS. There were 1,972 deaths amongst Borough residents made up as follows: European 715, Coloureds 74, Natives 865 and Asiatics 318. The European Death Rate (for outward transfers only) was 8.98 as compared with 8.45 for 'old' Durban last year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY. The following table shows the Infantile Mortality figure over the past eight years, (Borough Europeans Only.)

								Greater Durban			
				1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Deaths	.....	.....	.....	47	35	41	46	36	36	44	41
Mortality Rate	.....	.....	.....	45.81	36.3	44.62	46.64	36.99	37.73	47.82	39.96

BIRTHS There were 1,438 European births in Greater Durban during the year, giving a Birth Rate of 18.25 as against 15.4 for 'old' Durban in the previous year. The following table shows the recorded births—all races—and birth rates in the case of residents only, for the past ten years.

	EUROPEAN		COLOURED		NATIVE		ASIATIC	
	Births	Rates	Births	Rates	Births	Rates	Births	Rates
1924	919	18.09	54	12.02	19	1.17	770	47.67
1925	1,025	19.95	84	45.7	40	1.43	665	39.76
1926	—	19.63	92	48.91	37	0.97	909	54.09
1927	1,220	23.51	82	31.01	21	0.55	792	46.65
1928	986	17.34	117	34.70	49	1.54	679	39.94
1929	984	17.31	127	31.00	76	1.80	762	44.33
1930	973	16.06	136	32.84	129	2.72	658	37.96
1931	954	15.75	141	33.23	126	2.88	758	42.44
1932	920	15.46	160	37.29	181	4.13	826	44.64
Greater Durban								
1933	1,669	20.96	301	61.3*	1,087	16.8	2,764	39.6

*This figure is unreliable owing to the lack of information as to population.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS—BOROUGH RESIDENTS.

	Europeans	Coloured	Natives	Asiatics
Births	27	76	297	2
Percentages	1.6	25.2	27.3	.08

STILL BIRTHS.

	Europeans	Coloured	Natives	Asiatics
Notified	22	7	—	6
Registered	35	14	—	—

PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGE PERIODS EUROPEANS.

Age Period.	No. of Deaths	Percentages of Total Deaths at all ages
Under 1 year	61	8.5
1— 2 years	7	0.9
2— 5 years	15	2.1
1— 5 years	83	11.6
5—15 years	13	1.8
15—25 years	34	4.8
25—45 years	93	13.0
45—65 years	237	33.1
65 and over	255	35.7
TOTAL	715	—

TABLES SHOWING DEATHS FROM CERTAIN MAIN CAUSES 1931/32 & 1932/33.

DISEASES.	No. of Deaths		Proportion per 1,000 deaths from all causes	
	1931/32	1932/33	1931/32	1932/33
Infective Intestinal Diseases (Enteric Fever Dysentery, Diarrhoea and Enteritis)	—	—	—	—
Cancer	19	22	37	30
Heart and Circulatory System	71	94	141	131
Diseases of the Nervous System	101	131	201	183
Diseases of Birth and Early Development	30	53	59	74
Pneumonia & Bronchitis	15	33	30	46
Pulmonary Tuberculosis (incl Phthisis)	32	52	63	73
Tuberculosis—Other forms	20	35	39	50
Genito-Urinary	2	4	4	6
	37	60	73	84

TABLE SHOWING DEATHS FROM CERTAIN MAIN CAUSES—OTHER THAN EUROPEAN.

	NUMBER OF DEATHS.				Proportion per 1,000 deaths from all causes			
	Coloured		Natives		Asiatics		Coloured	
	1931/32	1932/33	1931/32	1932/33	1931/32	1932/33	1931/32	1932/33
Infective Intestinal Diseases (Enteric Fever, Dysentery, Diarrhoea & Enteritis)	6	3	35	125	20	31	89	95
Cancer	2	3	2	9	3	8	29	14
Heart & Circulatory System	5	4	15	23	10	12	74	48
Diseases of the Nervous System	5	2	7	14	7	9	71	33
Diseases of Birth and Early Development	5	10	25	66	17	27	74	81
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	13	10	55	128	47	59	191	224
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	11	11	42	159	16	37	161	76
Tuberculosis—Other	2	<u>6</u>	3	<u>34</u>	9	<u>9</u>	29	45

EPIDEMIC & INFECTIOUS DISEASES. With the exception of Malaria, the incidence of the common infectious diseases was extremely low during the year. A minor outbreak of Diphtheria was reported from the Fynnlands and Wentworth Districts but subsided soon after the closure of the school at which most of the patients attended. The total number of infectious cases notified was 1,594 and approximately one-third of those were in respect of pulmonary tuberculosis of which 87 were imported cases. Of the remaining 414 cases about equal numbers were domiciled in the 'old' Borough and incorporated areas respectively. Public interest in the control of the spread of this disease has been recently stimulated by the activities of the Natal Anti-Tuberculosis Association which was formed during the year and owed its inception to the organised medical profession of Durban. The movement articulates a phase of public opinion which has obtained in Natal for many years, i.e. that this province is badly served as regards institution accommodation for Tuberculosis patients.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CASES OF "NOTIFIABLE" INFECTIOUS DISEASES REPORTED—1932-1933.

Diseases	Greater Durban.					Imported.					Grand Total
	E.	C.	N.	A.	Total	E.	C.	N.	A.	Total	
Diphtheria	105	19	5	11	140	8	—	—	—	8	148
Enteric Fever	25	3	43	9	80	7	—	9	1	17	97
Scarlet Fever	45	1	—	—	46	1	—	—	—	1	47
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	76	25	214	99	414	3	—	69	15	87	501
Non-Pulm. Tuberculosis	2	4	41	13	60	1	—	4	1	6	66
Typhus Fever	1	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	3
Erysipelas	9	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
Puerperal Fever	7	1	—	2	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
E.C.S. Meningitis	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Trachoma	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Leprosy	—	1	2	2	5	—	—	1	—	1	6
Encephalitis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neon	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Malaria	273	55	307	137	772	21	—	83	17	121	701
	290	31	226	91	638	25	1	29	8	63	
TOTALS	563	86	533	228	1,410	46	1	112	25	184	1,594

ENTERIC FEVER.

					1927/28	1928/29	1929/30	1930/31	1931/32		1932/33	
									Boro. Imp.		Boro. Imp.	
Cases	.....	.....	.....	.....	143	142	107	94	54	41	80	17
Deaths	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	26	24	19	14	21	30	11

Borough Europeans only :

Case Mortality per cent.	20.0
Case Incidence per 1,000 of Population	.32
Death Rate per 1,000 of Population	.06

DIPHTHERIA :

				1927/28	1928/29	1929/30	1930/31	1931/32		1932/33	
								Boro. Imp.		Boro. Imp.	
Cases	.....	.....	.....	153	117	120	163	77	33	140	8
Deaths	.....	.....	.....	6	6	8	7	1	3	6	—

Borough Europeans only :

Case Mortality	2.86
Case Incidence per 1,000 of Population	1.32
Death rate per 1,000 of population	.04

AMBULANCE REMOVALS. The following table shows that a total of 244 cases were conveyed in the Infectious Diseases Ambulance :

Hospital	European	Coloured	Natives	Asiatics	Total
Municipal Isolation Hospital	79	16	107	10	212
Government Hospital	8	4	9	4	25
Other Hospitals	3	—	4	—	7
TOTALS	90	20	120	14	244

TUBERCULOSIS. Pulmonary Tuberculosis (including Pulm. Phthisis).

	1927/28	1928/29	1929/30	1930/31	1931/32		1932/33	
					Boro.	Imp.	Boro.	Imp.
Cases	324	338	342	408	129	234	414	87
Deaths	163	188	167	207	89	155	193	75

Borough Europeans only :

Case incidence per 1,000 of population	.95
Case mortality per cent	44.7
Death rate per 1,000 of population	.42

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

	1927/28	1928/29	1929/30	1930/31	1931/32		1932/33	
					Boro. Imp.		Boro. Imp.	
Cases	61	70	76	42	26	46	60	6
Deaths	41	58	36	28	16	30	53	11

Borough Europeans only :

Case incidence per 1,000 of population	.026
Death rate per 1,000 of population	.052

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL. The two new cubicle ward blocks have been completed and one of these is in daily use. The other is in the process of being equipped and will likely be in commission in the near future. It now becomes possible to visualize the final arrangements which require to be made in order to administer the Isolation Hospital in accordance with the scheme agreed upon between the Town Council and the Provincial Executive. The Provincial Executive having agreed to board and lodge the Municipal nurses and to provide a medical service in the Isolation Hospital it became no longer necessary for the Town Council to proceed with the erection of a large and expensive Administration Block as provided in the original scheme. It was, however, necessary to consider the erection of a small Administrative Block in substitution of the existing premises which are of poor construction and quite inadequate as regards accommodation. The Council has approved of the erection of that Block at a cost of £2,500 and application is now being made to the Minister for Public Health for his sanction.

In view of the altered conditions resulting from the enlargement of the Borough area and the consequent expansion of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, the question of the transfer of certain sites to the Government for a Non-European Hospital and Nurses' Home as originally agreed upon was referred for further investigation. Following an inspection of the sites in loco by representatives of the Town Council and the Provincial Executive, an amended scheme, whereby certain land was excluded from the site formerly agreed upon and other land suggested which would slightly increase the area available for the new Hospital, was submitted to the Provincial Administration for its approval and both parties have now agreed in principle to a re-allocation of the site on the lines suggested.

Agreement has also been reached in regard to the following subjects :—

- (1) Accommodation of "overflow" Malaria Cases.
- (3) Laundry.
- (3) Accommodation for Nurses.

The following table shows the number of cases treated at the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

DISEASE.	Europeans	Coloured	Natives	Asiatics	Total
Diphtheria	104	24	10	11	149
Scarlet Fever	45	1	1	—	47
Measles	38	7	81	9	135
Chicken Pox	10	1	58	4	73
Mumps	26	—	3	1	30
Typhus Fever	1	—	1	—	2
Whooping Cough	46	4	30	—	80
Malaria	—	1	84	1	86
Trachoma	—	—	—	1	1
Puerperal Fever	1	1	—	—	2
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	1	1	—	3
TOTALS	272	40	269	27	608

MALARIA AND ANTI-MOSQUITO SANITATION. During the year malaria again showed itself as a local manifestation of an epidemic which spread through the Province of Natal. The outbreak reached its height during the month of February and had practically subsided by the middle of June. The brunt of the disease was mostly borne by persons residing in the areas contiguous to the Umgeni and Umbilo rivers and their tributaries, and a disquieting feature of the past season has been the high percentage of subtertian infections notified.

In November, the Anti-Mosquito Section was strengthened by the addition of a gang of twenty-seven Relief Workers for the purpose of carrying out anti-larval measures in the South Coast Junction area.

A progressive programme of Swamp Drainage and Reclamation must be considered as one of the most practical measures to be taken against the spread of the disease and it is gratifying to record that the work commenced last year on these lines has proceeded apace.

Measures directed against the stegomyia mosquito—the vector of dengue and yellow fever—have shown satisfactory results which have justified the increased cost incurred through augmentation of the staff of this section of the Department.

Additional powers were granted during the year for dealing with the problem created by the arboreal type of mosquito nuisance.



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DISINFECTING STATION. During the year the following work was carried out :—

	Rooms Disinfected	Articles washed & disinfected
Congella Hospital	336	7,136
Private Premises	—	58,420
Typhus Fever Precautions	—	8,160

CLEANSING STATION :

Verminous Europeans—baths provided	2,867
Verminous Natives—baths provided	1,492

On the opening of the New Disinfecting Station in December, 1932, the cleansing station was closed down.

Deverminisation of Natives, however, is carried out under the direction of the Municipal Native Administration Department.

LAUNDRY. A total of 29,791 articles, including towels, coats, etc., were washed for the various Corporation Departments.

30,078 Costumes, slips and towels were washed for the Ocean Beach Baths and Bathing Enclosure.

55,904 Costumes, towels, etc., were washed for the Public Baths, West Street.

The construction of the new Disinfecting Station and Laundry was completed in December and replaced the inadequate and unsatisfactory premises at Alice Street which are now in the process of demolition. The laundry has been equipped with up-to-date plant consisting of boilers, ironing and drying and washing machines of the latest type at a cost of approximately £4,000.

In regard to the Laundry, a quotation has been submitted to the Administration for the Non-European Laundry work at the Addington Hospital and it is anticipated that eventually the Municipal Laundry will undertake the whole of the work from the two Government Hospitals.

VACCINATION*

INFANTS AND CHILDREN.

Births entered on Vaccination Register	2,264
Successfully vaccinated	864
Insusceptible to vaccination	40
Vaccination postponed owing to illness	192
Previously had smallpox	—
Deaths of infants under 2 years registered	150
Ratio of vaccinations and postponements registered to 12 year old registration during the year	51.84
Applications for exemptions received	224
Applications for exemption granted	209

RE-VACCINATION OF 12 YEAR OLD CHILDREN AND OTHERS.

Registration of 12 year old children	1,289
Successfully vaccinated	491
Insusceptible to vaccination	44
Vaccination postponed owing to illness	31
Previously had smallpox	—
Ratio of vaccinations and postponements registered to 12 year old registration during the year	43.9

*Figures supplied by courtesy of the Senior Assistant Health Officer, Union.

WATER SUPPLY. Almost of equal importance in many places is the question of an adequate and wholesome supply of water. Where tanks are provided the only feature which has given the Health Department any concern has been the danger of mosquito breeding. Very few of the tanks were mosquito-proofed and numerous instances were found where they were discovered to be prolific breeding places for mosquitoes. Many of the more careful occupiers made a point of oiling the water in their tanks, but this precaution is apt to be overlooked at times, especially when the premises are unoccupied, and the Department is accordingly insisting on all tanks being mosquito-proofed in terms of the regulations. There are, however, many premises where even the rudimentary provision of a single tank for the storage of rain water has not been made, and the occupiers have to rely on shallow wells—in some cases on holes in the ground—or water from rivers or streams.

All these sources of supply are liable to gross contamination and even infection and must be regarded as dangerous. The wells are also favourite breeding places for mosquitoes, and not infrequently the old cement cask or oil drum used to store water for domestic purposes carried from a river or stream has been alive with the larvae of the malaria mosquito.

Throughout the year, the quality of the water system, as ascertained by weekly chemical analysis, has been consistently good.

The high standards of purity are indicated by the sub-joined analysis, taken at random :—

CHEMICAL :	Colour	Good	Sediment	Nil
	Turbidity	Nil	Re-action	0.82

ANALYSES. (Result expressed in parts per 100,000).

Total solids	10.52
Loss on Ignition	2.56
Chlorine	2.84
Nitrates and Nitrites	Nil.
Saline Ammonia	0.002
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.008
Total Hardness	5.25
Permanent Hardness	3.12
Iron	Trace.
Poisonous Metals	Nil.

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.

OUT PATIENTS :

New Cases.

Europeans. Male	234
Female	29
Coloured. M.F.	44
Native. M.F.	645
Asiatic. M.F.	64
	1,016

Injections of N.A.B.

Europeans. Males & Females	255
Coloured. M.F.	84
Natives. M.F.	1,138
Asiatics. M.F.	72
	1,549

Irriation.

Europeans	4,669
Coloured	126
Natives	1,496
Asiatics	221
	6,512
Bismuth Metal	50

Dilations.

Europeans	28
Prostrate Massage. European Males	11
Wasserman Tests	71
Slides & Smears	340
Vaccine Injection	104
Intramine	1
Medicine & Consultations	1,511
Total Attendances at Clinic	10,177

	Borough	Imported
European	6,086	246
Coloured	271	45
Native	2,586	557
Asiatic	347	39
	9,290	887

IN PATIENTS :

Europeans. Males 58. Females 3.	61
Coloureds. Males	21
Natives. Males	620
Asiatics. Males	44
Non-European. Females	247
	993

Injections of N.A.B.

Europeans. Males & Females	27
Other Races	2,078
	2,105

Irrigation.

Europeans. Males & Females	2,359
Other Races	9,862
	12,221
Bismuth Metal	56
Contramine	93
Gon. Vaccine	48

Venereal Cases discovered by Medical Officers. Native Administration Department.

Syphilis—Primary	139
Secondary	151
Gonorrhoea—Acute	45
Chronic	33
Mixed	58
	426

ANTI-PLAGUE SANITATION. During the year attention was called to a matter of importance which emerged in connection with the Department's policy in re Anti-Plague Sanitation. The Department has for years followed a policy based on the Public Health Bye-Laws of the Borough and which in August 1930 received Statutory recognition in the promulgation of special regulations under the Public Health Act. Certain structural requirements are demanded by the Regulations before any plans can be passed for the new erection of or alterations to any premises intended to be used as shops, stores or other buildings containing or storing any rat-attractive material. It was contended by this Department that the requirement of solid rat-proof floor construction applied throughout the floor area of the premises and should not be restricted to the floor space of kitchen and pantry in which view it has been supported by the Union Health authorities.

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE DEPARTMENT. The European infantile mortality for the "old borough was 41.9 per thousand births as compared with 48.91 last year. The figure for the enlarged Borough was 39.96.

The European maternal mortality was 3.46 as compared with the 'old' Borough figure 3.28 last year.

The Medical Officer-in-Charge, Maternity and Child Welfare Department makes the following observations regarding the work of her Department :—

"During the year Clinics have been held at the Old Court House Centre for Europeans and Coloureds, and at the Brook Street premises for Indians. The attendances at each centre showed an increase of 1,211 and 6,118 respectively, over those of the previous year—indicating the continued popularity of the work.

Supervision of the work of midwives has been carried out as far as the rest of the work in the Department permitted.

The names of nine qualified persons were added to the list of midwives practising in the Borough. No unqualified people entering the Borough from other centres were allowed to register.

Seven unqualified and unregistered women were found carrying out maternity practice in Durban and were warned not to continue.

With the sanction of the Minister of Public Health, the names of two unqualified midwives were removed from the Register during the year, on account of not complying with the Regulations. A third was warned and applied for the removal of her name from the Register.

A scheme for the re-organization and extension of the Maternity and Child Welfare services by the establishment of subsidiary clinics in the added areas was proposed during the year and was not agreed to.

Later a modified scheme was drawn up so as to make these services available to all races in all parts of the Greater Borough at a cost not exceeding the expenditure voted during the current financial year except for an amount of £400 voted from the Native Revenue account.

This scheme, which aims at the establishment of two centres only—one at the Old Court House for Europeans and the other at Brook Street for Non-Europeans together with the appointment of a full-time Assistant Medical Officer—is at the present time under consideration by the Council."

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

(Brook Street & Old Court House Centre).

1932—1933.

	Eur. & Col.	Natives	Asiatics
Total Medical Sessions	354	12	101
Total Ante-natal Sessions	146	8	97
Total attendances at Clinic	25,388	248	12,484
New cases out of above number	2,205	95	2,551
No. of infants under 1 year attending clinic	1,033	36	398
Total attendances of infants under 1 year	8,215	99	1,833
No. of expectant mothers attending clinic	700	12	154
Total attendance of expectant mothers	2,095	17	317
No. of cases receiving dry food at reduced or cost price	Child Wel. Sty.	2	24
No. of cases receiving dry food free	124	1	35
Amount of dry food sold	60 lbs.	5 lbs.	194 lbs.
Amount of dry food given free	2,638 lbs.	7 lbs.	286 lbs.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.

	Eur. & Col.	Natives	Asiatics
No. of expectant mothers attending Clinic	700	12	154
Total Number of attendances	2,095	17	317
No. of above cases attended by Municipal Midwives	168	—	65
No. of cases referred Addington Hospital for Confinement	281	1	10

MATERNAL MORTALITY. No. of Deaths from causes due to childbirth :—

DURBAN—European	4
Coloured	—
UMHLATUZANA—European	1
Coloured	—

DEATH RATE.	Death Rate—DURBAN—European	3.89
"	" " " Coloured	—
	Death Rate—GREATER DURBAN—European	3.47
"	" " " " Coloured	—

MATERNAL DEATHS : Attended by —

Midwife throughout	Doctor	Both	Nursing Home or Hospital	Total for year 1932-33.
—	1	—	3	4

Causes of Maternal Deaths :—

Puerperal Septicaemia	Toxaemia of Pregnancy with Albuminuria—Pulm: Embolism--Cerebral Embolism.	Post Partum Haemorrhage—Uterine Inertia—Secondary
2	1	1

HEALTH VISITORS' WORK : Infants under 1 year :

Feeding	Eur. & Col.		Asiatic	
	First Visits	Re-visits	First Visits	Re-visits
Breast Fed	861	772	204	113
Mixed	84	476	9	42
Artificial	94	710	25	75
	1,039	1,958	238	230
OLDER CHILDREN	214	4,073	49	323
Totals	1,253	6,031	287	553

OTHER VISITS :

Still Births	Infant Deaths	Expectant Mothers	Maternal Deaths	Ophth. Neon.	Inspection of Lavatories	Reports to Sanitary Office.	Puerperal Fever	Con-tacts
E. & Col. 25	39	394	1	7	28	9	2	5
Asi. 8	10	82	1	—	—	1	2	3
Total : 33	49	476	2	7	28	10	4	8

TOTAL VISITS : European; Coloured; and Asiatic 8,741

	Eur. & Col.	Asiatics.
Total number of Infants under 1 year visited	1,326	290
Total number of Expectant Mothers visited	370	59

MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES.

	Eur. & Col.	Asiatics.
Total number of cases for Year	168	65
Total number of Ante-natal Visits	433	321
Number of Premature Births born alive	5	—
3 at 8 months—Alive.		
1 at 7½ „ — „		
1 at 7 „ — „		
Still Births	—	1
No Maternal Deaths.		
No Serious Maternal Complications.		
Emergency cases	18	3
Abortions	7	9

INFANTILE MORTALITY—AGES AND CAUSES OF DEATHS.

GREATER DURBAN—EUROPEANS.

CAUSE	WEEKS			MONTHS			Total under one year
	0-1	1-2	2-4	1-3	3-6	6-12	
Premature Births	20	1	1	2	—	—	24
Congenital Malformations of Heart	5	—	—	1	1	—	7
Injury at Birth	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Congenital Debility	4	—	—	1	—	—	5
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	—	—	—	1	1	3	5
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Syphilis	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Diseases of the skin and its Annexa	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Haemophilia	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Spina Bifida	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia—Not otherwise defined	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia—Lobar	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Broncho Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	2	2	5
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
TOTAL	33	1	3	12	8	7	64

GREATER DURBAN—COLOURED.

CAUSE	WEEKS			MONTHS			Total under one year
	0-1	1 2	2-4	1-3	3-6	6-12	
Premature Birth	5	1	—	—	—	—	6
Injury at Birth	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cancer of the Buccal Cavity and Pharynx	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
Infanticide	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Tuberculosis of Central Nervous System	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Spina Bifida	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Broncho Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	2	—	3
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	10	1	—	—	3	5	19

MILK SUPPLIES.

ERADICATION OF BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS. In October 1931 the routine Tuberculin-Testing of dairy herds was suspended in order to take stock of the situation in general. A year later the Secretary for Agriculture stated that his department was in agreement with the view that it was

impracticable to carry out the original scheme for eradicating tuberculosis from the whole of the proclaimed Durban area and in consideration of the scheme outlined by the Medical Officer of Health in a memorandum dated July 4, 1932, agreed to its general provisions with certain modifications. Under this scheme dairies were divided into three categories, "A," "B" and "C" according to the standard of sanitation and hygiene obtaining in each, and the modifications to the original scheme which suggested itself as a practical proposition in view of the altered circumstances was the temporary restriction of further routine tuberculin-testing to the classes of dairies equipped for the production of Certified Milk, i.e. the dairies represented approximately in category "A." For such of the remaining dairies as would qualify for a licence i.e. those contained in category "B," a moratorium would be allowed until such time as necessary structural alterations could be completed.

The Secretary for Agriculture intimated that only "A" dairies would be tested by the Government Veterinarian subject to certain stipulations.

For various reasons, the effort to complete the classification of local dairies in "A," "B" and "C" classes was delayed and it was not found possible to reply to the Secretary for Agriculture until May in regard to the queries raised by his department relative to the Amended Scheme.

Four dairymen signified their willingness to undertake the production of certified Milk. But for the prevalent economic depression, there is no doubt that the response would have been greater. Taking all circumstances into consideration, however, it is rather a matter for satisfaction that the number is as great as it is. One can state with a fair amount of assurance that were a fresh invitation proffered to dairymen to join the "Certified Milk" producers' group, the response would be highly gratifying to the promoters of the Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme.

More recently the Department of Agriculture has advised that it cannot proceed with the scheme unless the Municipality can see its way to inducing a larger number of dairymen to join the "A" group and is prepared in the meantime to postpone the resumption of testing in "A" dairies until the end of the current year on the understanding that sufficient dairies are then available to justify the continuation of the scheme.

It is to be hoped that a more thorough investigation of this subject will induce the Department of Agriculture to reconsider the position with a view to persevering with its encouragement of a policy which reflects so greatly on the public health of Durban.

The improvement effected in dairy hygiene and sanitation noted in previous years was maintained during the year in review and it is gratifying to record that dairymen are appreciating the benefits which accrue from co-operation with this Department. The value of educative propaganda in its relation to production of clean and wholesome milk supply cannot be too highly stressed and work on these lines has been one of the most important duties carried out by the Municipal Veterinary Officer.

The Central Station for Tuberculin-Testing has now been established at the Municipal Abattoir and is functioning satisfactorily.

Lieut. Col. Harber was appointed to the vacancy of Assistant Municipal Veterinary Officer in November created by the promotion of Mr. W. A. Dykins to the post of Director of Abattoirs.

FOODS AND DRUGS. During the year, the following samples were obtained and submitted for analysis, viz :—

Description .	Number	Genuine	Below standard or adulterated
Milk	271	251	20
Ice Cream	4	4	—
Cream	2	2	—
Sausages	13	6	7
Mince	4	2	2
Black Pudding	1	1	—
Lard	4	4	—
Dripping	2	2	—
Curry Powder	1	1	—
Honey	2	2	—
Pepper (white)	1	1	—
Pepper (black)	2	—	2
TOTALS	307	276	31

In addition to the above, the usual weekly samples of milk were obtained and submitted for bacteriological examination. Weekly tests of the purity of the Municipal water supply were taken as a routine and proved uniformly excellent.

Legal proceedings were instituted in respect of six samples of milk deficient in quality or adulterated, a conviction being obtained in each. In the remaining fourteen cases the circumstances were such as to warrant no proceedings being taken other than to issue warning notices to the dairymen concerned.

Seven samples of sausages analysed disclosed the presence of preservative in quantities in excess of that permitted by Regulation. In two cases the amount was so excessive that proceedings were instituted against the vendors and are now pending.

OTHER FOOD SUPPLIES.

UN SOUND FOOD. The following table shows the nature and quantity of unsound foodstuffs seized by the Department under the provisions of the Public Health Act No. 36, 1919, viz :—

Article.	Quantity.
Tongues	5
Sheep Trotters	14 sets.
Giblets	2
Venison	2 carcasses.
Hares	6
Turkeys	130
Fowls	206
Prawns	64 lbs.
Kippers (Imported)	10 cases.
Other fish	4
Peaches	18 trays.
Water Mellons	5
Tomatoes	5 cases.
Plums	75 trays & 27 cases.
Cheese	4 lbs.

SANITARY SERVICES. When the Council took over the added areas, it was found that a conservancy service was being carried out by the Umhlaluzana Health Board. At Mayville conservancy and rubbish removal services were carried on by a contractor on behalf of the Board, and at Sydenham another contractor was carrying out rubbish removal only. These services were only given where the owners or occupiers agreed to pay for them. All these services have been continued on the same basis by the Corporation, but after the end of the present Municipal year, payments will cease and all premises without a sanitary service will, in terms of the Ordinance, have a rebate on the rates.

No such services have yet been inaugurated in the South Coast Junction or Greenwood Park areas, but it is intended during the next twelve months to have schemes prepared not only for these two areas, but for an extension of the existing services in the other areas.

LICENSING. A large amount of time and labour has been spent in connection with licensing matters in the new areas. Many of the licensed premises were found to be very inferior in construction and arrangement, with poor equipment, and lacking essential facilities for the clean and hygienic conduct of the business. In the climate of the coast area where verminous pests flourish and multiply so rapidly it is held that all shops and premises where foodstuffs are stored or sold should be constructed of solid materials and in such a manner as to eliminate as far as possible harbourage for vermin. It is also felt that all such premises should be provided (as required by law) with proper and sufficient sanitary arrangements which should include suitable washing facilities in conjunction with shops, etc. where foodstuffs are handled.

A rigid application of these requirements to all trading premises would have resulted in the closing down of many businesses with consequent hardship to the people who relied upon them for their supplies. It was, therefore, decided that except in respect of a very limited number of premises which were considered too insanitary to be allowed to continue trading, to require such improvements as were urgently necessary and accept satisfactory undertakings for the full compliance with all requirements before the end of the current year, and in a large number of cases these requirements have already been met. 20 new brick trading premises have already been erected to replace unsuitable stores, 7 have been reconstructed in brick, and 9 old shops have been demolished.

RUBBISH REMOVAL. The Council has recently accepted a tender for the supply of an additional six motor vehicles for the removal of refuse. These vehicles will be used on the Berea. With the exception of portions of the Eastern Vlei, all the low-lying and swampy areas in the old Borough have now been reclaimed, consequently the only places left where rubbish can be deposited are the unreclaimed areas of the Borough. Where the distance over which rubbish has to be transported is short, horse transport is still the cheapest method, even if not entirely satisfactory in all other respects, but when longer distances have to be covered, motor transport is not only a more efficient but a cheaper method in the long run.

CEMETERIES. The Corporation took over one cemetery for Europeans, three for Natives and Indians. With the exception of the European cemetery, considerable development and improvement are required at these burial places. It has been found, however, that there is quite a large number of private cemeteries in the new areas, and it is felt that all such places should be controlled by regulations or bye-laws. The future arrangements for disposal of the dead constitute a problem which should be considered from all angles and a definite policy decided upon to serve all the areas. A Sub-Committee of the Public Health Committee has been appointed to deal with this matter.

INTERMENTS AT CEMETERIES :	Stellawood	General	Umgeni
European	693	204	11
Asiatic	322	86	—
Natives, etc.	1,165	26	4
Total Interments :	2,511.		

SALE OF GRAVE SITES. The number of grave sites sold at Stellawood Cemetery was 482.

CREMATIONS. The number of bodies disposed of at the Crematorium was 44—Europeans 43, Asiatic 1.

BODIES RECEIVED AT THE MORTUARY :

Europeans	77
Asiatics	22
Coloureds	4
Natives	84
	187

OFFENSIVE TRADES. The following list shows the number of offensive trades being carried on within the Borough, viz :—

Abattoirs	3	Wool Washeries	2
Breweries	2	Sugar Refinery	1
Chemical Works	2	Sewerage Outfall Works	1
Fertilizer Works	3	Depositing Sites for Night Soil	2
Fertilizer Mixers	5	Refuse Destructor	1
Hides, Skins & Wool	30	Depositing Sites for Refuse	10
Soap Makers	6		
Wattle Bark, Grinding and/or			
Extract Factories	5		

HEALTH WEEK. A highly successful Health Week was held in October. Special features of the Health Week were the Health Exhibition in the Town Hall and the magnificent part in the programme played by the teachers and pupils of the Durban Schools. A feature of special interest was the display of Health Educational Films produced by the Durban Health Department, and illustrating hygienic principles and practice as applied locally in both communal and the individual sphere.

HOUSING. The incorporation of the added areas brought many new problems and more intimate acquaintance with the respective districts has proved how urgent is the need for improvement in various directions. Probably the pride of place should be given to the question of housing for the coloured sections of the community. As early as possible after incorporation a start was made to carry out a survey to ascertain the approximate proportions of the dwellings occupied by each section which could be regarded as unfit for habitation. Some 23% of the population of the incorporated areas are badly and insufficiently housed; approximately 69.5% of the people affected are Indians; approximately 26% are Natives. The number of Europeans concerned is fractional.

Except in the very worst cases, no steps have yet been taken to close buildings considered unfit for habitation, but during the year Notices were served on the owners of premises in respect of buildings so classified and as a result 842 structures used as dwellings have been vacated and demolished. It will be obvious, however, that until some scheme or schemes for the provision of alternative housing of a suitable nature has been carried out, the activities of the Public Health Department in the direction of condemnation of houses must necessarily be severely restricted. The urgency and importance of this question necessitates early and serious consideration by the Council.

I am grateful to the Councillors for their support during the year and to the staff of the Department for their loyal attachment to the best traditions of public service. I would also like to record my thanks to the Heads of the various Departments and to the many officials throughout the Municipal Service who have readily and wholeheartedly co-operated with my Department.

I have the honour to be,

Madam and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. D. ENGLISH,

M.D., Ch. B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Acting Borough Medical Officer of Health.

